

CLAIMS:

1. A device for managing an authorized domain, comprising a map, which comprises an identifier area (301) for containing identifiers corresponding to other devices, and at least one property area (302, 303, 304) for containing properties of the identifiers, said at least one property area being mapped on the identifier area, such that each individual
5 property of said properties is mapped to an individual one of said identifiers, and said properties being arranged to provide information about updates thereof, and which further comprises means (203, 204) for obtaining map contents of another device (201, 202) for managing the same authorised domain, and means (207, 208, 209, 210) for comparing the contents of the own map with said map contents of said another device, and for determining,
10 on basis of said comparison, whether to perform any updates of the own map.
2. A device according to claim 1, said at least one property area (302-304) comprising two property areas (302, 303), for containing two different types of properties comprised in said properties, one of said two property areas being a state area (303), for
15 containing states, and the other one thereof being a sequence number area (302), for containing sequence numbers, wherein each one of said states is one of a set of at least two different types of states comprising a state of added, and a state of removed, wherein each state is shiftable between said different types of states, and wherein each sequence number represents a number of shifts of an associated state from at least one of said different types of
20 states to at least another one of said different types of states.
3. A device according to claim 1 or 2, said means for obtaining map contents (203, 204) comprising means for directly exchanging map contents with said another device (201, 202).
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4. A device according to claim 1 or 2, said means for obtaining map contents (203, 204) comprising means for reading a separate storage means (401).

5. A device according to claim 1 or 2, said means (203, 204) for obtaining map contents being arranged for obtaining said map contents from a map handling device (402) of the authorised domain.

6. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, comprising means (207, 208) for determining that property data regarding an identifier of the map of said another device should be added to the own map at fulfilment of at least one condition of a set of conditions comprising at least the condition of the identifier missing in the own map and the combined condition of the identifier existing in the own map and a comparison value, which assures that the property data regarding the identifier was last acted upon in the map of said another device, said comparison value being determined by a comparison of at least one property of said properties in the own map with the corresponding property of the map of said another device.

7. A device according to claim 6 and 2, wherein said at least one property of said properties in the own map comprises the sequence number, and, in case of equal sequence numbers, further comprises the state, wherein at least said state of added and said state of removed are represented by different values.

8. A system comprising a plurality of devices (101-105) interconnectable by means of a network (110) and being arranged as an Authorized Domain, wherein at least two of said plurality of devices are acting as Authorized Domain Managers (201, 202); each Authorized Domain Manager consisting of a device according to any one of the preceding claims.

9. A method for managing an Authorized Domain comprising a plurality of devices, wherein at least two devices of said plurality of devices act as Authorized Domain Managers, comprising the steps of:

- providing each Authorized Domain Manager with a capability of at least managing adding devices to and removing devices from the Authorized Domain;
- for each Authorized Domain Manager:
 - arranging a map comprising an identifier area and at least one property area ;
 - storing identifiers corresponding to other devices in the identifier area;
 - storing properties of the identifiers in said at least one property area;

- mapping said at least one property area on said identifier area, such that each individual property of said properties is mapped to an individual one of said identifiers;
- arranging said properties so as to provide information about updates thereof;
- obtaining map contents of another Authorized Domain Manager managing the same authorised domain;
- comparing the contents of the own map with said map contents of said another Authorized Domain Manager; and
- determining, on basis of said comparison, whether to perform any updates of the own map.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the determination step comprises the steps of:

- determining that property data regarding an identifier of the map of said another Authorized Domain Manager should be added to said own map at fulfilment of at least one condition of a set of conditions comprising at least the condition of the identifier missing in the own map and the combined condition of the identifier existing in the own map and a comparison value, which assures that the property data regarding the identifier was last acted upon in the map of said another Authorized Domain Manager; and
- determining said comparison value by a comparison of at least one property of said properties in the own map with the corresponding property of the map of said another device.

11. A computer program product, directly loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for causing the computer to act as an Authorized Domain Manager, being capable of at least managing adding devices to and removing devices from an Authorized Domain, and for causing the computer to perform the steps of:

- arranging a map comprising an identifier area and at least one property area ;
- storing identifiers, corresponding to devices, in the identifier area;
- storing properties of the identifiers in said at least one property area;
- mapping said at least one property area on said identifier area, such that each individual property of said properties is mapped to an individual one of said identifiers;
- arranging said properties so as to provide information about updates thereof;
- obtaining map contents of another Authorized Domain Manager managing the same authorised domain;
- comparing the contents of the own map with said map contents of said another Authorized

Domain Manager; and

- determining, on basis of said comparison, whether to perform any updates of the own map.